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WILLIAM A. COLLINS PAPERS, 1862-1865

#5095-z

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William A. Collins Papers, 1862-1865.

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Inventory of the William A. Collins Papers, 1862-1865

Collection Number 5095-z

Manuscripts Department, Library of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Collection Information

- Descriptive Summary
- Administrative Information
- Online Catalog Headings
- Biographical Note
- Collection Overview
- Detailed Description of the Collection

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Descriptive Summary

Repository
Southern Historical Collection

Creator
Collins, William A., 1841-1862.

Title
William A. Collins Papers, 1862-1865 (bulk 1862)

Call Number

5095-z

Extent
About 40 items

Abstract
Private William A. Collins of Statesville, N.C., served in Company C of the 48th North Carolina Infantry Regiment from March 1862 until his death in December 1862. The collection is chiefly letters that William A. Collins sent to his family in Statesville, Iredell County, N.C. Collins's letters discuss camp life; the Regiment's first combat action against Union gun boats at City Point on the James River near Petersburg, Va., 16 June 1862; and actions in northern Virginia and Maryland in the course of which he was wounded and captured at the Battle of Antietam on 17 September 1862. After being paroled, Collins was confined to Chimborazo Hospital No. 4 in Richmond, Va., where he died. There are also a few messages from others, including the unit's captain, and later materials, among them a poem that appears to have been written by Collins's sister in 1865.

Language
English.

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Administrative Information

Restrictions to Access
No restrictions.

Alternate Form of Material
Microfilm copy (filmed June 2005) available.
Reel 1: Folders 1-5

Provenance
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Online Catalog Headings

These and related materials may be found under the following headings in online catalogs.

Antietam, Battle of, Md., 1862.
Chimborazo Hospital (Richmond, Va.).
Petersburg (Va.)--History--19th century.
Collins, William A., 1841-1862.
Confederate States of America. Army. North Carolina Infantry Regiment, 48th.
Soldiers--Confederate States of America--Correspondence.
North Carolina--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.
Confederate States of America. Army--Military life.
Confederate States of America. Army--Medical care.
Confederate States of America. Army--Hospitals.
Family--North Carolina--Social life and customs.
Statesville (N.C.)--History.

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Biographical Note

William A. Collins of Statesville, N.C., was born into a family of farmers on 21 August 1841. Although little is known about his education beyond the fact that he pursued a course of religious studies with his friend and pastor, Reverend J. M. Smith of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, it is worth noting that Collins had fine handwriting.

Like many of the young men from Iredell County, Collins enlisted on 26 February 1862 and his term of service parallels the early and, indeed, even the pre-history of North Carolina's 48th Infantry Regiment. While serving in Company C, he participated in a series of engagements in and around northern Virginia. He was wounded in the leg and captured by Union forces at the Battle of Antietam on 17 September 1862. After being paroled, he was confined to Chimborazo Hospital No. 4 in Richmond, Va., where he died of gangrene on 14 December 1862.

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Collection Overview

The bulk of this collection is comprised of the letters that Private William A. Collins, Company C of the 48th North Carolina Infantry Regiment, sent back home to his family in Statesville, Iredell County, N.C., during his term of Civil War service, which began in March 1862 and ended with his death in December 1862. Collins's letters provide a generally good-spirited, if critical, assessment of Company C's camp life replete with complaints about the uncertainty of their orders, the quality and quantity of the food and water, the lack of tents, the piney green fire wood, and the high cost of provisions such as fresh foodstuffs and soap. He also gave a brief description of the 48th Regiment's first combat action against Union gun boats at City Point on the James River near Petersburg, Va., on 16 June 1862. The letters go on to mention his unit's actions in northern Virginia and Maryland in the course of which he was wounded and captured at the Battle of Antietam on 17 September 1862. After being paroled, he was confined to Chimborazo Hospital No. 4 in Richmond, Va. While in the hospital, Collins wrote of having suffered thefts, demanded a lengthy list of provisions from home, and eventually even begged for someone to come get him.

Within this series of letters, Collins's uncle, Jesse Lippard (d. December 1862) of the same unit, occasionally wrote a brief note home. Other letters are from Company C's captain, Arthur Walker, who wrote to warn the family of Collins's dire medical state and need of rescue from Chimborazo Hospital, and a letter from the hospital detailing Collins's final days accompanied by his death certificate. Also in April 1863, Sergeant William Cascaddon (d. December 1863), a possible relation, wrote to the Collins family about their son's effects and the monies he was owed.

Also included are a series of excepts from Collins's letters, prayers, and a poem that appear to have been written by one of Collins's sisters in 1865.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Papers, 1862-1865.
About 40 items.

Arrangement: chronological.

Folder 1
Letters, March-June 1862
Folder 2
Letters, July 1862
Folder 3
Letters, August-December 1862
Folder 4
Letters, 1862-1863 and undated
Folder 5
Miscellaneous

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Camp Mangum March 6th 1862

Dear Sister

with pleasure I resume my pen to inform you that I received your kind and affectionate letter dated March 31st which gave me great joy to hear that you were all in the enjoyment of good health I also received the provisions ~~& things~~ & other things that you did so affectionately and freely send all of which we were very glad to receive. I am well and hearty at the present time hoping that these few lines ~~may~~ may find you all enjoying the same rich blessing of God. the most of our company is well and hearty with the exception of three of the company David Hiestler is very bad with Rheumatism so bad that he cannot help himself he has been so for several days and I think that he is getting worse every day for he is not at his right mind at times particular of a night he talks very much out of his mind I do not think that he can get well soon here. we have one case of the mumps but I think that he will get along very well. you stated in your letter that Mr Vesse was very bad off yet and that he would not be able to come to Camp yet for

some time yet I would be very glad if he could once get able to come down here to us but I would advise him not to come until he gets stout for it is a hard place for a man that has good health and if he comes before he gets stout he will be sure to get sick for it takes a man with a strong stomache to eat the fare that we get we have plenty to eat but it is so rough that it goes hard for one to eat it if he is well and much worse if he is sick the bacon is so strong and fat that we cannot eat much of it, it is old and mouldy at that and you know how that goes when it is but a year old the Beef is not very good neither our flour is very good but the corn meal is as rough as it could well be and it is not sifted at that the water we have is tolerably good but it is not near as good as the water of old Lincoln we have nothing to burn but pine wood for that is all or nearly all that grows in this part of country it makes a very bad fire to cook by and the smoke is so black that it smoke our clothes and faces black in a short time so black that we have to use water plenty and pretty often at that as for our clothes they are the hardest to wash for I tried mine yesterday washing and they were so hard to wash that I could not get them clean in cold water some of the company gets their clothes washed for five cents a garment and get it done nice too, we will not organise shortly and then we will get into a Regiment but I expect we will stay at the same place that we are at now if we do move it will be on the same ground we will stay here for some time yet I do not know how long it may be three months and it may not be so long but the Regiment that we go into is full we have not drilled much yet and I think that we are in a bad condition to join a Regiment I expect that you would like to know in what mess we are in we and Mr Barnhart are both in one tent but there is about seventeen in our mess and about six to a tent we Lowan Arch Howe, F. McKaley & W. Trautman A. Barnhart and my self stay in one tent. We received part of our clothes yesterday viz one coat one pair pants two shirts one cap and our canteens and haversacks and one pair shoes and some of the company got a blanket apiece the reason we did not all get Blankets they could not be had as for the balance of our clothe I do not know when we will get them.

Turn over

Richard Carskaden has got me to drop a few lines for him to his folks stating that he is well and hearty and he hopes that thes few line may find them enjoying the same like blessing he says tha he wants his folks to write to him as soon as they hear from him and when you get these lines tell his folk of it be sure and do so for he wants to be from his Mother in partiancular and tell them to Direct their letters to the same plac and in the sam way that you direct yours A W Barnhart also wants me to drop a few lines for him to his folks tell them that he is well hopping that when they hear from him they may find them all well he also received a letter from home last friday stating that they had a Boeakniife for him and that they would send it to him if he wanted it he says that he does and wants them to send it when there is a safe chance let them know it as soon as you can so if there is a some steam come on I will close now for I have written enough for this time Dear friends before I close I must say to you to remember me as long as I live and pray for me so that I may resist the temptations of the wicked one which surrounds me to be no more at present I am your affectionate Brother

Wm A Collins to Mr Collins

Camp Mangum N.C.
March 27th 1862

Dear Father:

It is with pleasure that I embrace the present opportunity of dropping you a few lines to let you know how we are all getting along at present, we are all tolerbly well at present though there has been and is yet some complaining in our camp too much cold and exposure has been the cause of all of it, we did not get out into camp untill last Tuesday The 25th, we had to stay in Raleigh from saturday evening untill Tuesday morning the reson was we could not get any tents, and when we did get tents we could not get but three, and we had to divide our company into three messes making about fifteen to a mess we will remain this way untill we get more tents, and then we will have to go about five to a tent, I will further inform you that we have not received the first bit of clothing yet of any sort not as much as a blanket nor I do not know when we will, and there is men in our camp that have not a thing only what they have on their backs

and you can guess from that how we
fare, it is no wonder that we would
all be sick. we have as good fare as
I expected, its is beef meat rice shugar
and Rye coffee and that (the coffee) our
boys brought from home and when
that is out we will have to take corn
meal or dog without I expect, our
mess is all of very respectable men and
our company is for the most part civil
men, we have not been examined yet
nor I do not know when we will
be, I do not think there will be any
chance for me to get a discharge for
I have seen tow or three companies
examined and I can tell from that
that there is no chance for me or at
least I think not as for my part I can
satisfy myself in camp if I can keep
my health and all of the company would be
same way there is from six to Seven
thousand men at this camp there is
right smart mumps and measels
in the camp but non in ours yet
but we will have them before long for we
have the chance of them in Goldsboro
I Jacob Goodman & company are camped close
to us and I have seen them all they
are all well, we have singing
in our camp and the Bible
is read as much as can be expected
for we have not had much chance yet
for the weather is so bad that it
takes a good part of our time to
get our wood, and when we do get
it it is nothing but green pine, name
you know how that burns, and what
sort of a fire it makes to cook by,
we have not drilled any yet owing I
suppose to the inclemency of the weather,
we have encamped about four miles
east of Raleigh and I do not know
how long we will stay here, you can
tell William Carsadin and his folks
that his brother Richard is well at this time and is
tolerably well satisfied, I cannot tell
when we will get to come home but
if we stay here any length of time
I think some of us will get to come in
the cours of tow or three weeks, this
is all that of importance that I have
to write at present only I wish
you all to remember and respect
us, and never cease to pray to Almighty
God that he may keep us from all harm
and grant that we may all be faith
ful and if it is his will to grant
that we may all return safe to our
homes and the peace may once more

be proclaimed throughout our oppressed country may this soon be the welcome sound is my sincere desire and wish with thes few lines I bring my lines to a close and remaining you sincere and affectionate son untill Death

Wm A Collins To Henry Collins

Dear Brother

I seat my self to drop you a few lines to let you know that I am tolerable well at present hoping that when thes few lines come to hand they may find you all enjoying the some blessing of God our heavenly Father who is the author and giver of every Blessing. I have seen more since I left home than I ever seen in my life before and I expect I will see a greate deal more before I get home. I want you to remember me and be a good boy and not to keep company with wicked boys but respect and obey the admonitions of your parents and never refuse to go to preaching but gounce behave your self and pay strict attention to what the preaches says. I have to close for want of paper so no more at present but I remain your sincer Brother untill death

Wm Collins to H. P. Collins

6 cts

May 17th 1862,

Fair Grounds near Corinth.

Dear Father With pleasure I embrace the present opportunity of dropping you a few lines to inform you that I am tolerably well at present I have been plagued to day with sick stomach but am better of that this evening but I have the bowl complaint very bad yet Lee is getting along much better than I expected he has got so that he can eat tolerably hearty and says he'll say will be well as well to day and should there will he has not been examined yet we do not know when he will be we are not yet to be paid

Sunday evening the cars was we could not get any cars on the night before and lie like fearing yet then on the next morning we hurried to Corinth about nine o'clock in the morning we got along very well and to our great satisfaction found most of the company well and they were all glad to see us all once more we now get a very nice place for camp and tolerable good water but I do not know how long we will stay here we have not received our bounty yet but I expect that will go in before long we have a good deal better quarters than we had when I was at Camp Haugum we have a better way for cooking and John Rice cooks for our mess we get more bread and some meat I should like to have over

Direct your letter this way to Collins
Regt & Troops Goldsboro
in care of Capt. Rockwell
P.S. Mother that he is

Tell William Cassadaga is his well and
hearty and is out guard to day at N Bern
well we have but two men in the hospital
Pinkney Rogers & Gibson we have got our guns
and have to drill with them every day
our company is not full yet by eight
or more we have not elected our officers
yet but I expect we will elect them before
long we have Dr Weatherspoon and
Mr John Pels in our company and I
expect they will be two of our officers
we have no particular news in camp to write
we will go but I would not be surprised
if we did not have to go to Kingston and
that before long for it was reported this
morning the rebels were riding on each
other and that our has taken several
prisoners, we have sing big in our camp every
night and we have also some religious meets
to read and very good one. I had almost
forgotten saying any thing about our boys, we do
not hear nor know any thing of any of them any where
on the road I have my cap pain slips & chate
lick that they Bob down for me I will bring
to a close write soon as you receive this, remember your
affectionate son will Dasta ii & Lots of love

Yours

State of N. C. Wayne county

Dear Father: Goldsboro May 27th 1862

It is with greate pleasure that I seat myself this morning to write you a few lines to inform you that I am in tolerbley good health with the exception of a bad cold and cough and I hope that when these few lines come to hand they may find you all enjoying the same blessing of God our Heavenly Father, Lee is sick this morning I expect that he is taking the measels he has a very bad cold and cough also and he complains of his breast hurting him very much he was examined last week and the Dr. gave him a discharge and the Capt took it to the Col. and he refused to sign it and if he does not Lee will have to stay here unless he goes to old general French but he does not know when to find him. I do not know what is the use of keeping him here for he has not drilled any on but very little and that laid him up night off he eats very little and is falling off in flesh every day I think if he gets well enough and we leave this place shortly he will have to go to the hospital and I think it would be better for him to be there now

turn over

There is right smart complaing in our company at this time but it is mostly cold, we are still at Goldsboro but I do not know how long we will stay here we had orders to leave last saturday the 24th for Wilson once we had all things pact up and nearly really to start but the orders were either countermanded or dis'it was done for to so how quick we could get really and now I do not know when we will leave, I had almost forgotten to state to you that I received you kind lette bearing date of May 21st which gave me great joy to hear from you all once more you write to me that you received all of my Cloths once things with the exception my shoes spice an ginger I have got them here son of the boys brought them down for my went you to write whether there was any drawers came for me in the box for I have two pair here besides what I brought from home that pair that I brought home is at W.B. for mine is here the pen stocks you recd, from the camp is mine and Lessy the blainhandel is mine and the other is his. I am tolerably well state fied at this place and in the same tent that I was in before, I must close for this time by asking you to write soon and ask god to bless your self government and give strength in the war evolution from your affectionate son W.H.G.

Goldsboro N. C. Wayne County

May 30th 1862

Dear Father With pleasure I seat myself this evening to scrap you a few lines to inform you that I am well at present hoping when these few lines come to hand they may find you all enjoying good health and all other comforts that it doth please God to bestow on us. I am sorry to state that uncle Jesse is sick with the measles and was taken to the hospital yesterday the 29th he was very sick when he started but I heard from him today and he was some better the Col hopes yet signes his discharge but he talks of signing it now which I hope he will do since that shortly we had orders again on yesterday to leave this place for Petersburg Virginia but we are still here and the truth is now that we do not know when we will leave I expect to receive my bounty now in a few days and if so as soon there is a safe chance to send it home I will send it home provided there is a safe chance

the reason of me writing so soon Jesse
told me that he wanted me to write
as soon as we landed to the place to
which we were to go and as we did
not know when we will leave I thought
I had better write to let you know that
he was sick I forgot to state that Robert
Erwin is sick and in the hospital and
the doctor says he thinks he is going to
take the fever you write to me that you
wanted me to write to you how much
it cost me to get across this it did not
cost me any thing only what it cost
me to go from Statesville to Salisbury Pleas
got a transportation for the whole crowd
of us and we all went free I want you
to write to me whether you still got the eng-
ineer and whether there is any news of imp-
ortance for we can not here scarcely anyhow
still write to me how you
look and how you are getting along with
yours I forgot to write that Jesse had a letter
the other day and stated in it that Brother John
had the measles I want yet to write how he got
and how many of you had them I must
close by asking you all to remember me as your
affectionate son and Brother W. A. C. Henry Corry

Petersburg: Va. June 3rd 1862

Dear Father.

With pleasure I embrace the present opportunity of addressing you a few lines to inform you that I am only in tolerably health at present I have a slight symtom of the flux but I think I will be all right in a day or two I hope when these few lines come to hand they may find you all enjoying good health and every blessing that God doth so mercyful bestow upon sinful man Dear Father mother Brother & Sisters we still keep getting farther & farther apart in this world but God be thanked we are still joined in heart and if we meet no more on earth O may we meet in heaven where parting will be no more. Dear Father we left Goldsboro Sunday evening and travled all that night and the next day (Monday) about the middle of the day we arrived safe in Petersburg Va I saw more in the last two days than I ever saw in my life before we crossed the Weldon Brige Monday morning about day light it is the longest that I ever saw in my life it is the Roanoak River it crosses and is about a quarter of a mile across the river we find nothing on the road to eat but crackers but we have plenty of them. Petersburg is the largest city I ever saw the largest and finest

that I ever saw. I will now try to inform you something about the fight at Richmond which I believe commenced on sunday and it is reported that they are still fighting yet but I think it is false I expect from accounts there was heavy losses on both sides I fear there has been a may precious life lost in the conflict the report is that the 4th N.C. Reg. is badly cut up Capt. A.R. Simonton of Statesville is killed and the report says that J.B. Andrews is also killed but it is just report and I hope it may still continue to be so I know not how long we will stay here but I think it will not be long till we will have to go some place or perhaps some where we will have the enemy to meet with and fight Dear friends should it be to morrow I feel like I could go and fight in cool blood if I do have to fight I hope and pray to God that I may fight in no ther way but perfectly cool and a prayer in my mouth I have heard since I commenced writing that there was one Frontman two Hoovers one Goodman and one Rusle wounded these names all came in the papers I suppose they are all from Andrews company as for who was killed it does not give any account I will bring my lines to a close by asking you all to remember me and if we meet no more on earth may we meet in heaven from your affectionate son

Direct your letters to Stanhope 48th Reg. N.C.T. Co. H. C.
N.C. in care of Capt. A.M. Walker Write soon

Ben

State of Va. Dinwiddie County

Petersburg June 12th 1862

Dear Father It is with greate pleasure I seat my self this morning to rep you a few lines to inform you that I am well at present with the exception of a bad cold and cough which I have been plagued with ever since I came to camp the second time. I hope when these few lines come to hand they may find you enjoying good health and prosperity and all other blessings that it doth please God to bestow upon you our company is for the most part well and hearty. Jesse is still at Goldsboro yet the last account that I had from him he was going about. I will now state to you that I have not Rec'd any letter from home since I came to Petersburg and this is the fourth letter I have written since I Rec'd any from home I started two from Goldsboro and this is the second one from this place. I hardly know what to make of it whethe my letters do not go right or your do not come right I am getting very impatien and can hardly wait till I get some word from you all again. We are still at Petersburg but I do not know how long we will stay here nor where we will go when we leave this (turn over)

I like this place very well we have very good water and a very nice place for camp it is cool and the fresh air has a fair sweep at us we have very much rain out here and the coolest weather that I ever felt I believe for the time of year it is so cool that corn wheat little Indian looks bad wheat looks bad out here and the most that I have on the road did not look like it would make more than half crop Dear Father I commenced this letter yesterday morning and had to go on guard and had not time to finish it and this morning when I came to camp to my greate satisfaction there was a letter arived for me which I received with open hands and read it with greate satisfaction and was glad to hear that you were all well and enjoying good health I was sorry to hear that your crop was so badly injured but it come from the hand of the Almighty and all that comes from his hand is all for the best. Dear Father I will bring my lines to a close by asking you to remember me (which I know you do) I wish you to ask God to be with me and that I may never undertake any thing upon which I cannot ask God's Blessing may God be with you all and with me and though we are separated in this world we may be joined in heart and if we meet no more on earth we may meet in heaven from your affectionat son [illegible]

Dinwiddie County Petersburg Va June 13th 1862

Dear Mother With pleasure I seat myself to answer your kind and affectionate letter which gave me great joy to hear that you were well I am tolerble well at the present hoping when these few lines come to hand they may find you enjoying that good blessing of God who is the giver of all good. your letter almost made the tears burst from my eyes to think of the many days and blessings we used to enjoy together and to think of the time when sickness and trouble was my lot your hand and heart was always ready to assist at any time when I think of it I can hardly keep my eyes from tears Dear Mother I know that your affection for me is great and your prayers have no end Dear Mothe do not grieve for me for I hope through the mercys of God to see you again in all I ask of you is to pray to God for me to keep me in the right path and if it is his will that I may return home safe again but not our will but gods be done and if it is not his will for us to meet on earth we may meet in heaven where parting will be no more and where no sickness wars famine nor pestilence nor troubles of no sort come may this all be our lot and and reward at the end of our days is my sincere praz for Christe the Redeemers sake Amen remember me as long as life shall be our portion from your ever affectionate and sincere son until death W. A. C. TO MRS C

(I want you all to write as soon as you get this letter)

Dear Sister it is with plesure that I endeavor to drop you a few lines to inform you that I received your very kind letter with joy and gladness and was glad to hear that you were well and that you had not forgotten but you remember and respect me as a brother. Dear sisters I have nothing of importance to write to you only my friends and myself get along like brothers of the same family I am rejoiced to say that [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and it seems that the boys are becoming more serious and indeed it is time for we know not what a day may bring forth I am rejoiced to say that we had preaching in our Reg last Sunday and as touching a sermon as I ever heard it was indeed affecting to see the tears roll down burning cheeks of the soldiers as they sat unmoved upon the ground we will have preaching next sunday & every sunday as long as we stay may it do much good is my sincere desire and wish I must close by asking you to write to me as soon as you get this from your ever your affectionate Brother W. H. C. To S. W. C. & E. L. Collins

Dear Brother & sister I was glad to hear from you and that you had not forgotten me and I hope you never will I have not much room to write to you all I want you to do is to obey your parents and do anything contrary to this but obey your parents in the Lord as you are commanded forget me not W. H. C. To J. C. & E. L. C. W. Cancadon is well at this time but has not heard any letter since he came here

No. 7.

Petersburg Va. June 21st 1862

Dear Father:

It is with the greatest pleasure that I seat myself this morning to answer your kind and affectionate letter which came to hand June 20th I was truly glad to hear from you all once more and that you were all well and enjoying good health and all other blessings that are due to mortal man. I will now inform you that I am tolerably well at the present time I have a slight touch of the bowel complaint to day which hinders me from drilling to day but thank God I am able to be about and able to write I hope and trust to God that these few lines may find you all enjoying good health and many more blessings of God. The most of our company is well at present we had only four on the sick list this morning and but one of them that is any ways bad off the rest being back off for several days and I am afraid that he is a going to have a spell of sickness and it should not be surprising if it would not be a spell of the fever

We are still at Petersburg yet but as I have written before I cannot tell how long we will stay we left this place on last monday 16th for City point about ten miles below Petersburg and got down that evening awhile before night and lay by till the next morning when we marched out to meet the enemy if he should attempt to land we had to pieces of artilery which went out and after two of our companies who had been sent out as pickets fired on their boats the artilery then opened fire on them and endeavored to draw them to land but it only caused them to fire on them and as they threw balls and bombs at us with great force and to a great distance we were lying behind a large hill when they first commenced and threw them clean over us out of sight our guns that is cannons kept up fire all this time with great spirit and it was reported that they shattered one of their boats to pieces but they belayed it up again and

quite numerous then by this time the firing from the enemy became more regular and fierce and our guns were ready to return and their ironclads were not to get out of range we must just as we have started and get to the top of the hill on the railroad the bums fell all around us and bursted and spread every which way but no one was hurt though we were exposed to the enemies fire for an hour and half the shots and kept throwing all around us but our company behaved finely it gave us all a shock and we were but for my part good was my breast and I hope I shall never be in such a case as that if it is our lot to get in such a place again I shall be prepared right on that I think you written in your letter for me to write to you whether I have got my bounty yet I have not nor I do not know now when I will if I have it now or could get it shortly I would have a good chance to send it to you for capt. wife came down yesterday evening and I could have sent it with him if I could have gotten it but to

commute but if I can get it any ways cheap
and there is any safe way to send it home
I will do it you stated in your other letter that
you had sold my second coat you to give
Brother John what you think proper and
I want you to give my Dear little sister Mary
Jane one dollar of it and tell her that
you gave that to her for to remember me.
you also stated that you had an warrant
to commute to act your which I hope you will
get it all saved may God Grant you all
good health to save your and my dear wife
you write to me that you wanted me to write
to Mr John Smith which I will try to do
to my Mr Dempster Hovey was at our
camp last night from Richmond to see his
sons but did not get to see them hear from John
Moss as he went back this morning and took
a ride out with him to see if he could find him
and if so I could send a letter for Smith
with him I will have to close for this time
asking you to write soon from your sincere
and affectionate son Wm. L. C. J. Hanna Corporal

Petersburg Va June 21st 1862

Rev. J. M. Smith

Dear Friend With great pleasure I embrace the present opportunity for the first time to drop you a few lines to inform you that I am still in the land of the living and through the blessing of God am enjoying tolerably good health my health has not been as good ever since I had the measels as it family had been but I am thankful to God that it is as good as it is, I hope when these my few lines come to hand they may find you enjoying good health and every other blessing that it may please God to confer upon you. Our company is for the most part well at present we have but one case in camp that is any way bad off at all. Our company

is mostly made up of civil and moral men it is the best behaved and nicest company in the Reg. I am thankful to say that we have preaching here regular every sunday and I hope and trust to God that it may do much good in turning souls to God. We are at Petersburg Va. but we have orders to leave here to day again to go some where on a march but I do not know whether we will start to day or not. We took a march the 16th of June down to City Point about ten miles, ~~and at~~ from our camp close to James River. We tried to draw the Yankies out on land by firing on them with Artillery but it was all lost time for our guns were to light to take any affect on their boats all the effect they did have was to cause them to throw Bums at us and they threw them with great force and fury for some time we were stationed behind a large hill in readiness if they should land but we did not stay there long till the shells came rattling over our heads but they could not ascertain our position at first and the balls flew to a great distance over us without exploding, but it was not long till we had orders to leave that place and just as we was ascending the hill the bums began to burst thick around us with great fury but there was not one of us hurt and it was a miracal too. The way the bums did fly God certainly was with us to preserve us may he ever be with us in dange as well as out. God was my trust and I hope he may ever be thoug dangers assail me on every side for he hath said though ten thousand shall fall on my right and left hand it shall not

Direct your letter to 48th Regt.
N. C. S. T. in care of Capt A
M Walker Petersburg Va

come nigh me, only with my eyes
shall behold and see the reward of
the wicked. Dear friend I have got
fare from my native home in a
strange land among strangers and
but few friends but one great consola-
tion I have is that God is my trust
and friend thong troubles and afflictions
gather thick around me he will even
be my trust & comfort. O could I see
you once more and be permitted to
seat myself under the sounce of
the gospel that would so sweetly fall
from your lips it would give me the
greatest joy but I hope ere long that
through the mercies of God yet to have
that pleasure. I will have to come to
a close but before closing so I humbly ask
you to write to me write me some good
admonition if you please. may God be
with you. From Wm. A. C. Tucker J. M. C.

you stated that you was at home by your
self when you got this my other letter and
that it relieved you of a great burden I hope
and trust to god that you may say that
every time you hear from me though I be sick
wounded or dead you can console ~~yourself~~ and
comfort yourself that I died at my post and in
full reliance on God who is ever my trust and
comfort but I hope through the mercies of God
to see you all again if not in this world O may
it be in the world to come may gods blessing rest
on you and me is my prayer. I remain your
affectionat son untill death Wm A. C. To M. M. C.
Dear Sister & Brother I will cross you a few
lines before I close I was happy to hear that you
were all well and may these few lines still
find you enjoying the same blessing of that Being
who is the giver of all good. we still have preach-
ing here every sunday and I hope and trust that
it may do much good. I ask you not to forget
me as long as you live but ask god to bless me. for
want of paper I will have to close. I want you all to
to write soon from your loving Brother W. A. C. To. J. G. C. B. L. T

Selma Ala June 21st
1862

Dear Mother With the greatest pleasure I take my pen to rite you a few lines to inform you that I recd. your kind and affectionate letter which gave me the greatest joy to hear from you once more and I was truly glad to hear that you were well and I hope when these few lines com to hand they will fing you still enjoying the same blessing of God. Dear Mother your love and affection for me is great I know that you would sacrifice almost any thing to do me a favor you wrote to me that there was a haversack came home and two hand towels came home which you said you would send back with D. A. T which I want you to do be sure and send the haversack but if you have not started them before you get this do not send but one towel unless you know that it belongs to our tent but I think it is Jesse's. if D A does not start before this comes to hand send my suspanders with him Dear Mother

Camp Hill Petersburg July 10th 1862

Dear and affectionate Father It is with a thankful heart that I am once more permitted to seat myself to drop you a few lines to inform you that I am in the land of the living yet and therefore to God I am injoying tolerably good health I have been troubled for a day or two with a very bad head-ache and with boils (which cause me much uneasyness yet) they terminated from that wound that I had on my shoulder. Dear Father I hope and trust to God that these few lines may find you all enjoying good health and many more rich blessings of God. Dear Father I am informed that the news came to you that I was badly wounded but thank God it is a mistake I was only slightly wounded in the shoulder I was only out of duty one day but marching and carrying my knapsack on my back it become inflamed and broke out nearly all over my

body but I think if we do not have
to march closly it will soon get well
again. I recd your kind letter dated the
27th of June which gave me great pleasure
to hear from you once more but was sorry
to hear that sister was sick but
am informed since that she is getting better
Uncle Jesse Reed, a letter from you the 9th
which I read with pleasure but was heart
broken when I heard that Dear Mother
was sick with the flux but I hope and
trust to God she will soon recover may
God be with her in her affliction. Dear
Father we live now in a gloomy time it will
be much more so at home than in camp
for every thing will present a desolate app-
earance after the conscripts have home
it will a many home desolate and besides
that I am affraid there will be a many poor
wife and childesen will have to suffer for
bread but the Lord will be done may he
supply their wants and if it is his will
may this war be long over. to a close —

Dear Father provision which you so kindly sent
to me came to hand but I was not near to enjoy
its contents it nearly all spoiled though. I
said it was all good when it came I unpack-
ed it and used part of the provision which
was all right he saved me some of the potates
which I was glad of for we do not get any
vegetables here unless we buy them. I
understand that the conscripts are to
start the 15th and they will shurely
come to this Com. that is out of that neig
hbourhood and if they do and you get
this letter in time please send me some
more if there is a chance for I hope and
trust we will stay here a while if there
is a chance since such thing as will save
longest if you have any cucumbers please
send me some for I do almost get famished
out for such things I would be very thankful
for a little honey if you have any onions
apples pies and the like I will not be to
troublesom though. I will come to a close
all I ask of you all is to Remember me as

long as life shall last may he ever be
be a good to you and to me and ever
keep us under the shadow of his almi
ghty wings. from your ever affectionate
and loving son Wm. A. C. To M. Collins
Dear and affectionate brother and
sister I seat myself this mor
ning to drop you a few lines to
answer your kinde letter which
came to hand ~~July 9th~~ July 9th
it gave me great satisfaction to here
from you again I now inform
you that I am getting toler
ble well again I have got
able to handle my musket
again and I am redy to march
to meet the enemy looking
to god for help dear brother pr
ay to god for us and I hope he
will hear and answer us I
must come to a close so fare well
Isaac Lippard To Henry Collins

Dear Will Petersburg Va July 12th 1862

Dear Father

With pleasure I seat myself to droppe you a few lines to inform you that I have Recd 50 dollas of my bounty and will send 40 of it with Mr John Bartley I keep ten dollars with me for I do not know when I will get any more uncle Sevier also sends 40 dollars of his in the same envelope with mine you will find this letter droped in Statesville but the letter that the money is in you will have to go to Mr Bartleys we thought it would be safer than to send it to statesville though it will be a little more trouble to you you will do with mine as you think proper and have Fesses ofer to uncle John for to take charge of I am tolerable well at present I will have to close for

Mr Bartlay is in a hurry and will start in a few minutes from your ever affectionate

W. A. C. H. C.

P.S. I started a letter the other day and wrote in it for some provision & forgot one thing that was soap. I want you to send me some if there is any chance to send it but for we do not get any soap here at all or scarcely any. Your son W. A. C. H. C.

~~Petersburg~~ Petersburg July 12th 1862

Dear niece and nephew I take the opportunity of droping you a few lines to inform you that I am well at this time hoping these few lines will find you all in the same blessing of god I am sorry to hear that the conscripts have to leave home and that dear mother should be left alone to mourn for her two sons who have lived so long with her to comfort her but I hope you my dear young will try to comfort her in this season of grief and we I am happy to hear that brother John will take her to him and take care of her and if he does I want yous to go and see her and to talk to her and try to cheer her up tell her not to fret about us for we expect to get back some time and if we dont we will meet in heaven if we hold out faithfull to the end so we dont need to weep as those who have no

hope we have a glorious high priest who has past into the heavens to make intercession for us and again we have the holy spirit making intercession for us with groanings which can not be made, therefore thus what wait we for or why do we dont god is a mussifull god and he will save us to the uttermoast all those who come to him, my dear young friends I want you to remember your god and dont forget to pray to god our heavenly father that may spare us and bless us for we are in great danger of the enemy both of body and soul and may god deliver us from the power of Satan, Dear John I want you to be a good boy and dont take up with the wicked boys nor listen to bad men wh o curse and swear and take the name of god in vain, I must come to a close so farwell my dear young friends (Jesse Lippard) (to) (C. D. Collins and C. L. Collins) John

Camp Heights near Petersburg July 17th 1862

Dear and affectionate Father It is with the greatest pleasure that I seat myself to answer your very dear and affectionate letter which came to hand the 16th of July & it almost made me frantic with joy to hear from you all once more but I am sorry to hear that you get none of my letters I have written one nearly two weeks ago it was before we came back to Petersburg and you certainly did not get it or els you would have recd it before you wrote I also had written another one after I got back to Petersburg and it has been gone nearly a week I am hale I am in tolerable good health at present I am troubled very much with boils at present they came from the wound that I recd in my back or it was rather in my shoulder the cause of them arising was I carried my knapsack too much on my back and the wound became inflamed that with the poison of the ball has nearly laid me up.

but we have been right from Shelbiana and they have got to mending freely I think they will get well before long. Dear Father I hope and trust to Almighty God that these my few lines will find you all enjoying good health and many more blessings which he does so affectionately bestow upon us sinful creatures as we are. you stated we have some sickness in our Co but seem that it is very bad off but I never heard he has been lying for some time with the fever but he is getting better now I think We have moved our camp about two miles from it where we now stay it is on the opposite of Petersburg it is a very nice place for camp and the water is very good. Dear Father I have Recd my bounty at last both Companies and that we Recd the Company first and at a time that I had a chance to send it home and I will send forty Dollars with R. T. Goodman I had claimed to send it with Mr John Bastley and it so happened that I Sh. G. came before he left and he has so much to carry that he thought it would be better for Goodman to take it as he would go nearer home than he would with it I sent two letters one I had allowed Mr Bastley to drop in Statesville and the the other one that the money was in he was to keep till you went after it but as it happened more convinient to you I sent you both of the letters the money was all in one envelop both mine and Lewis $140 or apiece I written directions in the letter to you for you to do with it as you think best I have Fifty Dollars more that I would like the best sort to send home to you but I have not got a safe chance at present but as soon as I get a chance I will send it home to you you write to me that the conscripts were ordered out the 8th and was to start for camp the 12th of July. Oh it certainly is a desolate looking time about home now but I hope and trust to God that the time will soon be long before we will get to return to our peaceful homes

Jesse is and William Carscadden
are both well at present

may God hear our prayers for peace
is my sincere desire and wish Dear
Father & Mother I have the Box you sent me but
did not get to enjoy the contents of it none
only the potatoes I got to enjoy the potatoes
which I was truly glad of. I have written in
my letter for you to send another Box with
some of the boys but as I am informed
the are not coming home now there will
be no chance to send any supplies nor send
any unless some body comes with it for
if the are no body comes with Boxes when
they are sent they will not come safe
Dear Father you write to me that you
had Recd that letter that I write to Mr
Lewis M Smith but I have never got a
an answer yet I would like to get some
news from Mr Smith since he was
at Petersburg but I was not there to see
him and was sorry for it could not help it
I will have to close by asking you to write
soon to me and fail not may God bless
you and I is my prayer from your ever
affectionate son and Dear Mother, Calvin H. Collins

Camp Lee Petersburg July 21st 1862

Dear and affectionat Father it is with great pleasure that I seat myself this evening to drop you a few lines to inform you that I am well as regards health yet I cannot be about much from the effects of boils which I have been pestered with for some times cannot drill nor have not drilled any since we came back to Petersburg nor I do not know when I will be fit for service for as fast as one boil sinks away another rises I have one under each arm now and one on my back they are very much in my way in lying I cannot rest good at all on their account. we have very warm weather here now and we hav not got much shade to cover us from the heat of the sun Dear Father I want you to write to me in your next letter whether you read all my

money or not Jesse and I sent 250.
00 Dollars apiece with Mr John
Morrison to Statesvill wher he
was to leave it in case of Mr
Joseph Stockton the letter was direc
ted to J N Lippard and he was to han
mine over to you which he will do if he
gets it I want you also to write if you
got the forty Dollars that I sent with
D. A. Goodman. I regret to say that I
do not get letters from home as I ought
do for I have got no word from home
since that that came in Wm Carson's
letter and I have written before and
since but have not recd. any letter
yet I mean to send this one with
Mr Martain Leonard and you will cer
ainly get it I want you to write to me all
about the crops and times about home
I hope these few lines will find you well
and Gods blesing rating upon you may
this be your lot is the sincere wis of your
affectionate son W. A. Collins

Dear and ever affectionate Mother it
is the greatest pleasure that I can
retire to to commune with you in a
distant land it relaves my troubling spirit
to think of you and I am thankful
to God that he has blessed me with
such a kind and affectionate a Mother
O may it be his gracious will that
I may meet you all in peace ere this
life is over Dear Mother I am well at
present and I hope to God that these
few lines may find you all enjoying
the same blessing of God. Dear
Mother Jesse is well at present and
him and I was in Town to day
and had our likenesses taken both
in one case we intend to send
them home with Mr Leonard he will
start to morrow we had to pay
$6,50 cts though it was high we did not
begrudge the money for we desired
that
you at home ~~you at home~~ should

have them. we want you to keep them among you. you can keep them awhile and then let his mother have them a while ~~and~~ I also will send some candy which I alow mostly for Brother John and Sister A. K. tell them that I want them to remember me and if they ever have a chance to send me something which I know they and all of you would do with the most greatful heart. Dear Mother I am thankful to God that we are blessed with the opportunity of having preachin in our Regt. every Sunday and we also have pray in our Co. of a night I must say that we are blessed with a God serving man for our Lieut he will stand by us in battle to the last as cool and calm as if we were out of danger and tell us to put our trust in God may he ever bless our faithful Wife therefore I must close and may God bless you all is my prayer. W. A. Collins

Camp Lee Petersburg July 25th 1862

Dear and affectionate Father

With great pleasure I seat myself to write you a few lines in answer to your kind letter which came to hand the 23rd and was truly glad to hear from you all once more I am well at present yet my boils are not well yet but they are better and will soon clear away I think I hope and trust to God that these few lines will find you in the land of the living and enjoying good health I am sorry to hear that you did not get all of my letters that I write to you but was glad to hear that you did get one at last I am also glad to hear that you got my money safe I also sent Eb Hoot with John Morrison it was directed to Statesville in case of Mr Stockton I sent a letter with the Lieuand and write about it in that I expect you have got the letter before now I want you to write in your letter what it been also that $50.00 in the same letter the letter was directed to uncle I as Dispose I was in hopes that I would have got my wages to send back with Lt. Gorman but I do not think I will though our officers have the requisition made out but the money has not come yet I want you to put my money to my use you think best

William W. Sarah G. Collins Sarah Aug. G. Collins

to

I know you will not put it to a bad purpose. I am glad to hear that you have got over your crop the third time with the plough & not that crop looks as well as you say it does, I hope that God may bless you with a fine crop of corn you write that times look gloomy and doubtful about turnout know they certainly do but God has said if we trust in him he will never leave us nor forsake us I hope and trust to almighty God that these distracted times may soon be filled again with their families I will have to come to a close for this time may God's blessing rest upon you all and I is my prayer for Christ's sake Amen. I remain dear Father your affectionate son unites Death W. H. C. H. C.

Dear and loving Mother

What great pleasure it is to me to sit down and write to you the pleasure I cannot express I need. your kind letter and was truly glad to hear from you also that you were well, I am well at present hoping that these few lines through the mercies of God they may find you enjoying good health and many more such blessings of God who is the bountiful giver of all goods you write to me that you could not hear from me for a long time and that you almost despaired till you got a letter but God bless them Ma. he knows we through danger

you stated in your letter that you wanted me to write to you how I stood the march that we had and the hardships we have to endure Dear Mother the first that I have to endure was to fight the enemy but I never flinched and am calm & with a prayer in my mouth and was supported through by his almighty arm. As for the marching I stood it remarkable well the longest march I have was down from near James River to Drewrys Bluff about eight or ten miles I had to march after night and wade creeks over knee deep and more over shoe mouth deep and the night so dark that I could hardly see my hand before my face I well nigh give out but kept up with the Regt. we lay near the Bluff for two or three days and then went back to Petersburg I was give out when I got back I have many more trials to go through with it would take too much time and paper but thank God he has spared so many of us. Dear Mother you said you was heart broken to hear that I did not get my provision I also was sorry my self but as you said what good that did me of it I got the medicine you sent to me and was glad for it my cough is not as bad as it was yet it pesters me mighty hard I was glad for the provisions & other things that you so kindly sent me I was very well pleased

with the pants that you sent to me and the soap for
we have one cask to buy and it costs 70 cts per lb and
so the apples I remember onions and all the rest of
the things the looked so much like home I only wish it
was Gods will that I could be at home to enjoy these blessing
and get some of the milk butter and chickens you say
you can so well do without but I hope it will be Gods
good will to bring me safely to my home again may
this be his good and gracious will may God be with
you and I through life is my prayer for Christ sake Amen
I will close by asking you to write soon and fulfill
I remain your affectionate son William Death W. A. Death W. G.
Dear Brother and sisters

I will now drop you
a few lines to inform you that I am well at
present hoping these few lines may find you enjoying
the same blessing of God. I wish I could once
more be permitted to join you as I have in times that
are gone by but I hope to God that time will soon
come I ask you all to pray to God for me that if
it is his will I may return safely to my home
remain faithful in the exercises you have been taught
I must close for this time for I am out of paper I am
your affectionate Brother W. A. G. Death S. S. B. L. S. R. H. G.

Camp Lee. Petersburg Va. Aug. 1st 1862

Dear & affectionate Sister. nothing gives me greater pleasure than to seat myself this morning to answer your kind and affectionate letter which I received yesterday evening the 31st. I was truly glad to hear from you and more and that you were all well I am well to day and I hope these few lines may find you all enjoying the same blessing of God. I am here in camp almost alone for the Regt. has gone on another march it started Wednesday morning the 29th it has gone down below City Point some where I have not heard much from it since it left but I hope it will get in no fight. They were to return this evening and I just heard this moment that they are coming so I hope they will get back safe the reason I did not go I was not able from the effects of my boils which I have not got clear of yet. Dear Sister we are for the most part of our Co. blessed with good health. Mr. A. Leonard is in very feble health yet but I think he is getting better I am glad to hear that you received male Jesse & my likeness and the other things that I sent home. Dear Sister it fills my heart with grief when I think of the many happy years months weeks days & hours that we spent together in times that has gone by

when we shared our joys together and now we must
be parted from in distant lands from each other
oh! the pleasure it would be to me to be at my home
to enjoy the many blessings that God has blessed
you with yes if I were at home I could enjoy a man
good meals victuals and fruit which is so plentiful
at home & here if we want any thing like apples or
peaches we must pay 25 cts a doz. and they are not
good at that and all vegeables whatever are so dear
that we cannot afford to buy much of them a half gro
wn chicken sels from 50 to 75 cts apiece and one that is
grown sels for $1.00 you know Dear Sister that we cannot
have much enjoyment in that every but Gods Righte-
ous will be done I hope that it is his good and gra-
cious will that we shall meet again on earth and
once more enjoy ourselves together as we have done in
days that have passed and gone by but if it is not
his good will that we shall meet on earth we have
a firm hope that we will meet in heaven where
parting is no more oh then let us go on in the
hope of a better world beyond the grave may we
all live safely on earth happy there in any
heaven. Farewell your ever loving & affectionate
Brother until Death W. T. Collins

Rev. J. M. Smith,

I had the pleasure of reading your kind letter that you send to Wm. Collens, and I was glad to hear that you was well and that you had not forgotten us I am very well at this time; and I hope these few unpolished lines may find you in like health, I was very sorry that it turned out so when you was down here that you could not stop at our camps on your return home, but so it is it cannot be helped. tis likely you will give us a call some other time. We received your kind admonitions to ourselves and I will tell you that we intend to serve the Lord, let others do as they may. nothing more at this time. Only I want you to write to us again. Yours with much Respect

Jesse Lippard to Rev. J. M. Smith

Camp Lee Near Petersburg Va. Aug. 3rd/62

Rev. J. M. Smith, Dear Sir:- Yesterday evening 2nd of Aug. I recd. your kind letter which came to me by the hand of our Lieut. it was given him in Petersburg by Lieut. Lowance. I was truly glad for your kind letter for the admonition caution and warning you gave me to beware of the many evils that prevail in camp yes Old Satan every day and hour is trying his wily arts and power to entangle men by his many deceitful and cuning tricks and sorry am I to say that he has at this time many poor souls at this day and time laboring in his service. Alas! it is (as you said in your letter) awful to think of the many that are slain on the field of Battle where unprepared in the presence of an offended and awful God. O! to think of such a day would make my very heart quake with fear

if I lived as many without hope though
I do not live as strictly in accordance
to God's holy word as I should yet
I feel in my mind at peace with
my God I can now see the value of
being brought up as I was and I am
thankful to God that he has blessed
me with kind and duty loving parent
s if it had not been for them I
might this day have been walking with
the wicke would as many poor souls
are at this trying period of time. it
fills my heart with grief to think that
my dear parents and I must be
parted. but when these thoughts arise
I can receive comfort from him who
never refuses when we call upon him
in spirit and in truth. O! that the time
would once more come when peace would
be proclaimed throughout our land and
we all be permitted to return to
our friends and enjoy the blessings
we once enjoyed to be once more seated
in our native church and hear the
true gospel I so much love. but I hope
it is God's righteous will that we will
soon get to return to our native homes
but his righteous will be done if we
never meet on earth I hope we may
meet in heaven where parting is no more.
I am sorry that I did not get to see you
when you were at our camp and if
you could come again to see us it
would be a greate satisfaction to all of
us who have so many times been seated
under the sound of your voice as you
spoke forth the words of eternal life and
I would be truly glad if you could come
and preach to us. I am well this evening
and I hope these lines may find you and
yours enjoying a similar blessing of God.
please write soon. Farewell my friend. S. M. Smith
Wm. A. Collins to S. M. S. | Yours with Respect

Camp Lee Petersburg Aug 4th. 1862

Dear and affectionate Father: I seat myself to write you a few lines yet I am looking for a letter from you every day but as capt Walker is going to start home to morrow I will have a good chance to send you a few lines and I will do so I am well at the present time and thankful and to God for such good and gracious mercies I hope and trust that these few lines may find you all enjoying the same many like blessings of God. we are mostly in good health at present Lessee is well and hearty I think that he is a going to get as stout as a buck. we have fine weather now corn looks well but I can see there is plenty of fruit down here but we do not get it unless we pay four prices for it and we cannot afford to buy much of it though it is so tempting we have to buy some of it. O could I once more get home to enjoy with you the blessing of enjoying the delicious fruits which are so plentiful at home and there I could get it without money

and without price but that pleasure cannot have now but I hope the time will soon come when we will be permitted to see each other and enjoy our sorrows and pleasures together may god grant us this blessing is my sincere desire and wish. Capt. Walker came to camp last Saturday evening from Richmond he is getting along fining I think he will get well soon again. I intend to send Ninety Dolars with him it is part of my monthly wages I drawed $45.00 but I thought I had better keep $15.00 of it I expect you think I spend more money than I ought to do this I confess I do but Dear Father I alwas was fond of fruit and vegeabels and this we cannot get without money and it is so high to so I hope you will not think hard of it. you do with my money as you think best. write to me about your crop and how things look about home I must close by asking you to write soon. I Remain your affectionate son till Death

Wm A. T. To H. Collins

Aug 7th 1862

Dear and loving Mother I now seat my self to answer your kind and loving letter which I so gladly received. I am glad to hear you are well and I hope these few lines may find you still enjoying that rich blessing of God I am well at present except of my boils as I have before written you with to me about my clothes that I intended to send with G. H. Goodman but failed in doing so the reason was Mr Wagner could not get them to the Depot and so they had to be left you need not send me any more clothing for I have plenty here now and as you said cold weather will soon come on and then I can wear woolen pants very well. you say you got mine and Lees likenesses you said I looked so natural that it seemed like you ought to talk to me this Dear Mother we cannot do now but I hope the time will soon come when we will be permitted to mingle our voices with each other as we have done in days that are gone by Dear Mother when I think of times that are gone by I can hardly forbear shedding tears may God bless you and I and grant that we may meet each other on earth is my pray. I remain your affectionate son till Death Write to Jo M. M. C. will soon

Camp Lee Petersburg Va.

Dear and Beloved Father: Aug. 7th. 1862

With great pleasure I again resume my pen this evening to answer your kind and loving letter which I rec.d the inst. it was the greatest pleasure to me to hear from you all again glad was I indeed to hear that you were all in the enjoyment of good health may god ever bless, and continue his rich and great blessings unto you and I is my humble prayer I am this evening enjoying good health and thankful am I to God for his inestimable blessing I will inform you that I am still afflicted with boils I have at this time three very large ones under my left arm which renders me unfit for duty I hope this few lines may find you all enjoying good health and many more rich blessings of God our Com. is generally tolerably healthy at present but the weather is very hot here now if we had machine to do it would go hard with us but this I hope we will not have to do for a while yet there is right smart talk about the yankeys down at City Point but I do not think they will come out of

Dear Sister I now avail myself of the opportunity of answer your kind letter I was glad to hear you was well and I hope these few lines may still find you enjoying the same blessing of God Oh! could I once more be at home with you all it would be happy times for me indeed I hope they the blessing of God that time will soon come when I will again have that pleasure could I once more take my seat in my native church and hear the gospel I so much love it would give me great joy but I still look forward with hope for that happy day to come I must close for this time for it is very warm and tiresome weather to write my dear ie of you is to write soon to me and ever ask God to protect me from your affectionate Brother

Wm. A. L. Tolk, Jr.

My Dear little Sister Angeline I am glad to hear that you have not forgotten me and I hope you never will I have not forgotten you nor I hope I never will I was glad to hear that those apples you sent to me found at home they were indeed welcome and I am yours Wm. A. L. Tolk

reach of their coats for it they do they

will be sure to see it. Crops look fine in this country but things are very high and I think they are becoming scarce too. I am glad to hear that your crop looks so well I hope you will be blessed with a bountiful crop of corn I am sorry to hear that things have got so high in Dixie but I hope and pray that this unholy war will soon come to a close and things may then not be so high. I am glad to hear that you have got my money safe but you say there is no demand for it this I expected for it seems to be the most plentyful thing that we have now you write to me that you gave Mr Smith that letter and you said that he said he would write to me this he has done and I was glad to receive his kind letter for it was indeed a good and valuable letter to me I have written him another one and sent it with Capt Walke when he went home. I will now close for this time asking you to ever remember me which I know you do and God forbid that I should ever forget you. may he hasten the time when we can once more meet each other on earth is my pray. Oh pray for me write soon

of this remain I remain your affectionate son till Death W. A. G. to G.

Write soon

Camp

Camp Stonewall. Va.

Dear and beloved Father; Aug 15th/62

With pleasure I sent myself to drop you a few lines to inform you that I recd. your kind letter yesterday evening and was very glad to hear from you all once more and that you were all in the enjoyment of good health. I am well at present thank God and I hope these few lines may find you all enjoying a similar blessing of God. I have nothing of much importance to write at present we have right smart sickness now in camp some fever and jaundice and other complaints we have moved our camp again we are about three miles now from Petersburg I do not like our camp at all for we have no good water hardly and it is rather in a low place we moved there in order to get closer to work for that is a thing that we have plenty to do the work that we have to do is to throw up breast works and it is hard work to I know yet I have not tried it yet for I have not got fit for duty yet

(C. H.)

Dear Father the news of my friends death filled my heart with sadness but the loved will ever be dear and I remain your affectionate son till death Wm. A. C. Jno. H. Collins

Aug 15th 1862

Dear Sister it is with great pleasure that I
again seat myself to answer your kind letter I
was glad to hear that you was well and I hope that
few lines may still find you enjoying the same blessing
still dear sister it fills my heart with pain to
think that we cannot be together to enjoy with you
all the many blessings that God has bestowed upon
you but as it is not his will that we shall be together
at present I willing submit to his righteous
will but I hope it is his will that we shall meet
each other on earth Dear sister I know you
would fain send me some of your plenty if you
had a chance you told me to let you know if my
chicken saved that you sent me it saved very well
I eat the last of it the next day and it was still good
if you have a chance to send me some provision I will be
thankfull for it Dear Sister we are called to
mourn the loss of another Dear Brother but we have
a lively hope that he has gone to that peacefull
above that is reserved for all the finally faithful
O! God prepare us all for a happy death and a
final admittance at thy right hand is my prayer for
this place dear
I remain yours till death Mat C. to S. S. Colling

Camp Stonewall near Petersburg
Va., Aug 18th 1862

Dear Uncle +

I seat myself this morning to drop you a few lines for the first time I hope you will forgive me for not writing to you before now though I have no excuse to render more than neglect. I am thankful that I am permitted to inform you that I am well and thankful to God am I for that blessing and I hope these few lines may find you all enjoying a similar blessing of God. We have a good deal of sickness now in our Regt but none that is likely to prove fatal. We have very pleasant weather here now the nights fall almost cool enough for frost. our Regt is being increased every day almost with conscripts some of the companies have received their quota we are looking ~~daily~~ every day for some boys from Dredell but they have not come yet Col. Hill got back yesterday evening and he said they would not be along for a few days yet. Dear uncle I am sorry to hear that there has been such a failure of wheat this year if corn crops should fail times certainly will be hard in the way of getting bread but he who has provided for us all our days will still provide and not suffer to come to want may it be his gracious will to bring this cruel unholy war to a close and permit us all to return home in peace to our homes and beloved friends is my sincere prayer for Christ sake. Amen

I will come to a close by asking you all to ask God to ever be with us and to resist the many temptations that prevail in camp may God grant us to resist all the temptations that may encompass our path and I hope it is his will that we may return to our homes again but O! if it is not his will that we shall meet on earth we may all meet in heaven where parting will be no more I send you all my best respects please write to me again and fail not. I remain your affectionate Nephew till Death Wm. A. C. Jr. Ab Lippard

Dear brother I take the opportunity of droping you a few lines to let you know I am well at present hoping these few lines will find you all well I now inform you that I recieved a few lines from brother John Lippard, he stated that he and you would like to sow some of my said wheat you are well come to do so you can tell mother that I have recieved clothing from the confederate States one pair of pants ~~one~~ one pair of slips two shirts, canteen and haversack, I got the pants you sent me with Daniell Lantman, I have not drawed any shoes yet I dont need them now but I will before long, I have no news to write now I respect you here as much as we do, so no more at this time but remain your brother untill death. Jesse Lippard To Henry Collins

(write to me soon)

Rapidan Station Va. Aug. 31st

Dear Father by the protection of a merciful God I am one more permitted to seat myself this blessed Sabbath morning to drop you a few lines to inform you that I am still in the land of the living and in the enjoyment of good health. I hope these my few lines may find you all enjoying the same like blessings of God. Dear Father we are now about 90 miles from Richmond at Rapidan Station and about 25 miles from Alexandria we came here last Thursday morning but I surpose we will have to move tomorrow for we have orders to cook two days rations but where we are going I cannot tell but I suppose we will march towards Manassas. It is reported that old Stonewall has got possession of the Junction and of Bull Run but I know nothing more than I hear but I hope to God it is so that he will still grant him success to his arms. The troops are nearly all glad to go from this place. They all marched towards Fredericksburg and I surpose we will march

Louisville Ky. and Direct your
letters to Kilbourne
to go that direction as for my
part I will go without a murmur
for my trust is always in my God and
I hope he will guide me in the
right way and that he will always
be a friend to me as long as life shall
last and which I hope shall be forever if it
is not this world that we shall
meet again in earth I hope that we
may all be prepared to meet my
heavenly Father the angels away of your
humble servant. I will close by saying
that I remain your affectionate son
Death. W. M. H. Collins to Henry Cooling

P.S. I will state to you that uncle
Henry Lewis William Carscadon are
well. Mr. Cockwell has the mumps but
he is out of danger. Most of the new boys
have the mumps but none of them are
bad. All of the rest of the boys around
home are well. Pat Collins gets along
pretty well. Mr. [illegible] is sick but
it is not dangerous. Write to me

Camp near Richmond Aug 26th/62

Dear & beloved father It is with a heavy heart that I seat myself this morning to to answer your kind and affectionate letter and to inform you that we have again moved our camp and may expect to move still farther from home. We have to leave this morning to go I do not know for certain where we are going but the report is we are going to join old Stonewall Jackson's army but I do not know where it may be to go I will go willingly though it grieves me to think that we must be still farther and farther removed from each other but yet we are so many miles apart we are still joined in heart and I hope joined that we can never be more apart and if we meet no more on earth my love that cheering hope that we will meet in heaven where parting is no more and where sorrows troubles and trials are none no more may God enable us all to remain faithful till death is the sincere prayer of your affectionate son. I will tell to you that Lee is not so well this morning but he is going with us for we are going on the train Lee left Petersburg with the conscripts last

Saturday morning 28th for Richmond but he has not got to us yet but I believe he is in Richmond I believe this morning I am well at present thank god & may he still grant me that rich blessing I hope these lines may find you enjoying the same blessing of God. I will have to close by saying to you that I will write in a day or two again so farewell my dear father. Your A. Collins To Henry Collins

Dear & greatly Beloved Mother I will now write you a few lines as it gives me great pleasure to commune with you as I have said I write this morning with a heavy heart to think we must be parted so far apart though we should be yet a thousand miles apart I have a friend I hope that will stick closer than a brother has ever my comfort and trust wherever I go or wherever I be and shall ever be as long as I live I hope. Dear Mother this news may grieve you sorely But we have this glorious consolation that neither height nor depth nor things present nor things to come shall ever separate us from the love that is in Christ Jesus. O what a glorious consolation. I will come to a close by asking you all to ask gods blessing to rest upon me and may the same rest upon you all is my pray Amen. Dear friends one & all farewell I hope we will meet again. Your A. C. To Mrs. C

1862

Richmd. Oct 19th

Dear Father & Mother

It is by the mercies of an Almighty God that I am once more permitted to take my pen in hand though it is with a heavy and sorrowful heart to inform you that I am at Richmond wounded & am also in bad health but it is seems only to be this disease and I think I am likely to get better of this soon. I was wounded the 17th day of last month at the Battle of Sharpsburg in my left leg in the back part opposite the knee by a piece of a bomb shell but the wound has nearly healed up but my knee is very stiff yet but I can go on crutches & I will inform you that I was a prisoner with the Yankees until 16th when we were brought across our lines to Richmond

We were brought round from
Baltimore on water to Acheings
landing and there ~~from~~ to rest
They have a large number of our
wounded that was not able to
come. Dear Father and Mother the sor-
row of that days battle I shall not
attempt to describe our regt was
badly cut up I will however make mention
of some of our company who were
killed and wounded Lieut
Witherspoon Archabald Moore
Wm Hartline Hilliard David
Bloodfeller died of his wounds
the next night Wounded Daniel
Henry slightly Wm Carscallen
Henry Lippard D Ellen Cowan
Hiram Mowers Hiram D. A
J S Waugh all of these slightly
Amos Scougan has his leg lost
an but was doing well when I
heard las Daniel Bloodfeller is
is a prisoner he was well when
I saw him last and in good
spirits Dear Mother & Friends
I know you have all nearly
distrained of ever hearing from
me but I hope and trust to
you you may get this letter
and it may relieve you of some
trouble and more I hope I trust
to God that I will get to
dear home in a few days or
at least the doctor says we will
get to go O that I could was
at home now when I could get
your kind treatment but I
will patiently wait may God
grant my desire and wish
I am getting so tired I will
have to close for this time by
asking you all to ask God to bless
and keep me under his prote-
ction God is still my trust

may I bless you all
is my prayer for Colonel
[illegible]

Write to me as soon
as you [illegible] This [illegible]
[illegible]

Your A. C. J. to C.

I will have to close this
without my fork have not got
the stamp

Direct your letter thus
William A Collins
Hookers Division
Hospital Richmond Va

P. S. Josiah I see was not
hurt although over fifty shots
were fired at them last

Richmond Va. Oct 28th 1862

Dear and affectionate Father
it is with a feeble hand that I en-
deavor to write you a few lines to
~~to~~ inform you that I am lying at
Richmond wounded I was in Maryland
and taken prisoner by the yankees
my wound is in the left leg opposite
the knee and is doing very well it
is nearly healed up but my leg is
very stiff yet but I can go on crutches
my health is very bad at present I am
plagued very much with the diarrea
the provision that I get I think is the
reason of it this is dear Father the
one great reason of my writing
I want you to send me a box of
provision for if I do get home
home it will be
and if you can
know it will do
good and I would
do send which I want you to do
send ~~me~~ some young chicken both
cooked and raw I want some raw
so I can have some soup made
of

time I get
send me some
your kind heart is
mine if you
some young chicken both
cooked and raw I want some raw
so I can have some soup made

I want some mixed bread baked in the Bake oven and some Biscuit Bread some pie and punkin & potatoes cooked but not much of each & a small corn pone some butter in particular some pickles if possible do not send any sweet Bread some potatoes of of both sorts a good piece of ham some eggs if you can easily send them some veal and flash & a little honey and a bottle of brandy I want a little tinetine too I want you to send som few crisps too That is all I believe for I have written for to many things now but you will have to send a small quantity of each sort Dear parents I had written a letter sometime ago but I do not know whether you got it or not and I cannot wait but write again Dear parents could I be at home it would do me so much good but I hope to get after awhile after while only pray to God that I may be granted to return home once more I will leave to close for I am so tired writing May God Bless you and I is my prayer write to me as soon as you get this

Send my provision by express and take a receipt for it and send it in the letter so if I do not get it I can compel you for it

Direct your letter to Chimborazo Hospital Richmond, Va.

West & Johnston, Richm'd.

"Gather around your Country's flag,
Men of the South! the hour has come—
None may falter, and none may lag;
March to the sound of the fife and drum."

Confederate States of America,

186

Richmond Nov 14th

Dear Father

Leaving this to the point
[illegible] I [illegible] to write
to you and have had no answer
yet I have been lying in a
[illegible] still lying on Richmond [illegible]
[illegible] I have
[illegible] to you to come after me
[illegible] but you I did not
[illegible] and [illegible] Father
[illegible]
[illegible] you [illegible] to come and
take me to my chosen home
and friends for Dear Father
I am almost annoyed to
death I have had some of my
money stolen and a train now
[illegible] of clothes and some other
things and now I am [illegible]
[illegible] I wish you [illegible]

how I feel in such a place
I can get nothing that is fit
to think of. my feet hurt
the doctor has promised to give
me a discharge for the reason I
am not fit for service and
Father if you can possible come I
think that home do so right off &
delay not for your Dear sons
sake dont mind the cost I will
pay it myself bring me some
nourishment that I can
eat just bring something that
you can carry with you on the
train with you I will not mention
what to bring but if you
can possible do so and I will be
so glad to get home once more
one thing I wish you to bring I think
is a bottle brandy & travel come
to Richmond and inquire for the
Chimborazo hospital ward I may
be closed yet my request is
pray for that sake

Richmond Nov 18th 1864

Mr Henry Collins

Dear Sir I write to you to let you know how your son is. I found him to day & he is very low in spirits. I am the first man he has seen since he came to Richmond that he knew he is very weak he cant sit up any worth speaking of I never saw any person as glad to see me as he was. now I tell you that you must come to see him or he will dye if you come you can take him home with you he can get a furlow or a discharge which ever he wants you must come or get some other person come for him for he

will die certain if he has to stay
where he is you must bring
him some brandy with you & you
can bring him some Chickens cleaned
& Salted for he cant eat any thing
he gets in the Hospital. if you take
him home he will be to carry from
one car to an other & you must
bring him A pair shoes for his has
been stolen from him. now I
tell you if you want to see him
alive you must come shortly for he
cant live long the fix he is in but
he said he is getting better & I think
he will get better if he had company
come soon yours respectfully
A. H. Walker

Richmond Nov 25th

Dear Father According to your and my request I write you a few lines to let you know how I am getting along I am improving as fast as I can expect yet I am very lame off yet but I hope through the mercies of God to be able soon to travel in a week or two I want you to write to me and tell you got home and how you got along and how you all are I also have all was at home and how you get along if you would and write an particular I I Good comfort to help me and write as soon as you

get my letter
He is coming and if he
can to bring me some
little provision with him
and an old Roomy pair
of shoes if he can and a
little more tobacco my
bowels do very well at pre-
sent and my feet is still
improving so that I think
I can go in ten or twelve
days at the farthest if
you see your father and get
Mr Goodman to come
and have not to wait
and direct your letters
write so I will have to
close by praying to
you that God may make
each other shortly

CHIMBORAZO HOSPITAL, No. 4

DIED,

W. A. Collins Co. D, 48 Reg't.

N. Carolina.

Cause of Death, Gunshot wound followed by Gangrene in feet

Duplicate Surgeon

14 day of Dec 1862.

Buried in Oakwood Cemetery

16th Decr. 1882

Dec 18th 1863

Cintorange Hospital Richmond
M. H. Collins

My Dear Freind

It is painful duty of writing you a few lines informing of the Death of your Son W. A. Collins Who Departed this Life Friday the 14 inst. I was not present when he died But what I know was told me by the Ward Master He was perfectly resigned to his fate and expressed himself that he had made his peace with God

He was in full possession of his reasoning Death and was not the least alarmed He had no request to make to his Dear Parents and Freinds at Home

But his mind was better employed on meditating on their Salvation

My Dear Freind I sympathize most sincerely with you in your loss

But I believe and hope your loss is his Eternal Gain and that his Body has been Safely moved in the Human Eternal Rest

The words of the Ward Master were How happy I should be if Scared Die

Mr Collins died He was well nursed and taken care of But nothing could stay the hand of Death

He was buried in Oak Wood Cemetery

You should like to know if he had any money or what was done with his effects

The Ward Master did not tell me anything about it As it was not my business to inquire I did not do so Any information you should wish about your Son or his effects I should be glad to give at your request

I will bring this to a close by begging to remain

Your Friend

J. J. McCreight

P.S. I should be glad to hear from you or you can address me to Chimborazo Hospital Richmond Virginia

[1862]

Chimborazo Hospital
Richmond Va.

My much loved & honored Father,

Your very welcome letter came safely to hand and as I know you are anxious to hear from me I avail myself of this my first opportunity to reply. I was really glad to hear from you all once more, and to learn that you were in the enjoyment of health. I feel that it is hard to be sick & wounded, suffering so far away from all I love on earth but since it is the will of God I try to submit with Christian resignation and to bear all with fortitude knowing that God has told us through his apostle that "all things work together for good to them that love God." I thank God that I am enjoying great peace of mind, and have no fears in regard to the future, but feel willing to be disposed of according to God's will.

You cannot tell how anxious I am to see you all at home once more, but my dear father & mother & sister & brothers not grieve for me. I am in the hands of that kind friend "who doeth all things for the best." and who has given us all

the blessings we have ever enjoyed. Therefore you must look to him for comfort, and trust in him to restore me to health and to your loving embrace once more. I thank him that I feel that I am slowly improving, but cannot now tell you when to come or send for me. You must write to me again soon and tell me all the news, how you are getting along with your work, and how all the loved ones are. I will now close and add a few lines to Sister.

May God bless you all. Good Bye.

Your loving son.

Wm A. Collins.

My Dear Sister,

I was glad to hear from you. I hope that you will be pleased and successful in your school, you must be kind & agreeable to your scholars, and I hope that I will be able to get home soon and will assist you all I can with your school. I still trust in the goodness of God to restore me so that I can enjoy your company again on earth, but if this should be denied us, we can meet and enjoy each other's society in heaven, where we will never part. I would like to say more but must close. God bless you my dear Sister. Prays your affectionate brother William

[1862]

Dear Father I take my pen
hastily to inform you that I am
tolerably well at present the object
and cause of my writing to you is the
cap is going to start in a few minutes
and I want to send this with
him. And I want to send some
clothing with him but have
not the time I have written
to you some time ago for to send
me one at W Barnhart some how
or and if you cannot get a safe con
veyance for it to come before he
comes back send it with him
you and Mr Barnhart make
a box between you and make
a tolerably large one for it will
cost nothing no hire from
Brum affectionate son Wm. H. Le

From Wm. Cascaddon
Serg.t in Co (C)
48th Reg.t N. C. Troops

FREE
18 FEB
S. C.

DUE
10

Mr. Henry Collins
Statesville
Iredell County
N. C.

State of S. C.

April the 13th/63.

Mr. Henry Collins,,,,

Dear Brother,

It is with pleasure this morning That I seat myself to answer your kind letter that just came to hand. I wish to write you that I am well & hearty & hope these few unpolished lines may com=e to hand & find you and Fam=ily enjoying the same blessing of God. Dear Brother as it is your request for me to write you about what is coming from your Dear Son William, I will give you all the facts as near as I can. Dear Brother I made out a Final Statement and Duplicate, for the amount

due him. For wages & Clothing
The amount that we made out
Due him was $92.88 cents, but
there will be a little Reduction
For some Clothing that he drew
while at the Hospital. that we
did not know of when the
Statement was made, Colo
R. C. Hill approved the statem-
-ent, & Forwarded it on to
Richmond For collection, and
I suppose you will get it before
long,, Dear Brother give my
best respects to your Family
& neighbors, And Tell Mary
that you heard from me &c
Give my respects to all enquering
Friends,, Write soon if you please
With many respects I remain your
Brother, Wm. Cascaddon,,
To Mr. Henry. Collins,,,

December the 2nd 1865

Gracious and most merciful Lord, I entreat thee to receive my evening prayer, which I now offer unto thee. O Thou Father of all mercies and God of all grace, be pleased to fill my heart and my mind with a deep sense of thy fatherly goodness, which thou hast manifested towards me, in keeping and preserving me through the past day. I humbly beseech thee to pardon all my sins and transgressions committed this day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

Beloved Father in heaven! I thank thee that thou didst permit me to sleep and repose so securely during the past night.

O let me live this day according to thy holy will. Preserve me from falling into sin and shame. Forgive me all the evils which I have done against thee during the whole course of my life. For the sake of Jesus Christ

Amen

December the 2nd 1865

O God! Thou art good, and kind, and merciful to Thy children everywhere, and Thy name is great among Thy people. Thou hast manifested Thy goodness in blessing my beloved parents, and in protecting me against all evil and harm this day. Thy bountiful hand has supplied all my wants, and Thy mercy has ever been extended unto me. How shall I sufficiently praise Thee for these blessings! O heavenly Father, pardon my sins and short-comings; let me daily increase in faith, wisdom, and piety; and grant that I may continually serve Thee, and that I may honor and obey my parents and superiors. Accept my gratitude and thanks; let Thy holy angels watch over me this night, for the Redeemers sake Amen

hear is an indication of his faithfulness A letter
Datet August the 23. 1862, Directet to his Deer
sisters As follows, with extreme love and appeition
seat my self this morning to anseer your kind letter
I was glad to hear from you again, and that it still
pleased god to grant you that great blessing of health
which none of us do writely appreciate untell we have
lost it, and it was just so with the blessing of peece, we
knew not the value of it untell it was gone, now we can
see it, for it was one of the greatist blessings that god
ever bestoat on earth, but we a sinful people could
not see it nor ask god to continue it, why need we to
mommer, but let us as his people humble our selves
in dust and ashes, before him and aske him for the sake
of his deer son to restore pease again and god, our god,
will grand us his blessings, for he is mersifull, and hear
the voice of our blessed redeemer, come unto me all
yea that labour, and are heavy laden I will give
you werest, what a glorious invitation, and who would
not come and seeke christ, and him crusifide, but O
how many poor sinners that will not come to him
no wand our nation has come to what it is
And also A letter to his friends — while in the
hospittle, he says I feel it to bea hard to be
sick and woundet, so pair from home and all
that are deer to me, but sence it is the will of
god, I try to submit with christion resignation
and to bare all with portitude knowing that god
has told us that all things work together for
good to all that love him I thank god that I

am, enjoying peace of mind, and I have no fears [2]
in regard to the futer, but feel willing to be disposed
of as god will, but o my deer friends, you can not
tell how anxious I am to see you all once more at
home, but o my deer father, and Mother, sisters, and
brother, you must not grieve for me, I am in the
hands of that kind friend who doath all things
for the best, and who hath given us all the blessing
that we have ever enjoide, therefore you must
look to him for comfort, he then dropt a few lines
to his deer sister, stating that he was on the mend
and that if it was gods will, he would come home
and once more enjoy her sweet compeny a gain, but
if this should be deside us, we can meet, and enjoy
each others society in heaven, where we will
never part, he Also dropt A few lines (in a letter
Dated August, the 3 1862 Manifesting his love
and respect toward, his preacher the Rev. J. M. smith
and that he [illegible] rec.. his kind letter, and that he thank
him very much, for his kind, exertation, and admonition
caution and warning, and good advise, he gave him
and that he was sorrow that he did not git to see him
when he was there on a visit, and that he would be
glad, if he would visit them again, for sayeth he
old satan, is trying every day, and hour his wily
arts, and power, to mislead, an entagle men, by his
many skillful and cuning tricks, and he says, I am
sorry to say that, he has many poor souls in this day
and time, labouring in his cause, Alass, how awful
it is to think of the many that are slain on the
battlefield on prepard, to meet, gods, o to think
of such a day would make my very hart quake
with fear and trimble, if I lived without hope
as many do, although I mus confess that I do not
live as I should, ye I feel in my mind that I am at
peace with god my heavenly father

for I can now see the value of being brought [3]
up in a christian manner, and I am thankful to god
that he has blest me with kind and duty loving
parents, for had it not been for them, I might be
with the wild world, as many poor souls are, at this
trying time, it fills my hart with grief to think
that I and my deer parents must be parted, but
when I think of those things I find comfort from
him who never fails, when we call upon him, in
spirit, and in truth, he pray prays, that peace would
once mor bestoat, and that he could return home and
be seatet in our netive church, and hear the gospel
I so much love, and well might he say with the
Apostel paul, who can seperate us from the love of
christ, shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or
famine, or naketness, or peril, or sword, as it is
written, for thy sake we are killed, all the day
long, we are accounted as sheep for the slauter
nay, in all these things we are more then conquerors,
through him that loved us. for I am persuaded,
that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor princi-
palities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things
to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other creature
shall be abel to separate us from the love of god,
which is in christ jesus our lord
(and here is a fiew lines from A gentleman at the
hospittle who wrote, as follows, But what I know was
told to me by the ward master, Mr. callens was perfectly
resegnd to his faite and exprest him self that he
had made peace with god, he was perfectly concious
of his Death, and he was not the least alarmd, and
that he had, no request to make to his dear friends, and
parents at home, hear the words of the ward master
how happy I should be if I could die as he did

A piew mare lines from the ward master as follows

Mr. calling was in possession of his mind to the last he was fully aware of his approaching death and he was happy to die, and to be relieved from this world of appliction & trabel, he eppriest himself before he died as being happy and willing to die, but he had a greate deel to say about home towar his last, often calling his father and mother alth he was fare from his dear parents sisters & broth he was as I believe triumphent in Death, and how happy I would be if I could die as Mr. collans Did,

Wm. A. collans was born in the year of our Lord 1841 August the 21, he was dedicated to god, at an erly day by holy baptism, and when he arrived to young man hood, he attended A reguler corse of cattecal instru by rev. J. M. Smith, and was conformed A full member of the Evenegelical Luthren church, November the 5th in the year of our lord 1859, and he deparded this erthly career, December the 14 day — 1862

So he brought his whole, life on earth 21 years 3 Months an 23 days

In Time of War

We adore thee, O God, as the Lord of hosts. Great and mighty are thy armies, by which thou canst lay waste the guilty nations of the earth. We come unto thee in time of public calamity: we would mourn, O Lord over the pride, and ambition, & envy, & revenge which agitate the bosoms of earthly rulers, and make them rush into wars, & thus hazard the property, the comfort the blood and the life of the children of men. In thy mercy, O Lord, remove the causes which lead to such great evils, subdue and change the wicked passions and designs of all ungodly men who rashly & corruptly exercise their influence and authority. Oh frustrate to naught the counsels of those who delight in war & bloodshed, and will adopt no method to adjust disputes but that of leading thousands into the field of battle, and ushering multitudes unprepared into the presence of an offended & awful God. O Lord, hear our prayers for peace. Teach rulers & people to cultivate harmony & love, make an end of tumult & bloodshed. Let all false ideas of dignity & glory be buried in the dust, & may all in authority see that it is their greatest glory to legislate & govern in the fear of the Lord & for the peace & quiet of the nation. Oh look in pity on those who are in the tented field, the fort, the ship of war & the very arena of strife: have thy eye upon them for good, let them not forget that a day of judgement is nigh at hand, & above all things, preserve their souls, prepare them & us all for the peaceful abodes of heaven, forgive our sins, and save us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

A dying child neared the river of Death, but while
passing over, whispered — "It is only a little Brook after all."

Dear mother, I tremble to think I must die,
It is lonely and sad in the dark grave to lie;
Could you but go with me I know that your hand
Would guide me through death's shadowy land.

This day, endless River, I shrink as I feel
Its darkness and mystery . . . O chrome
I hear its wild waves swell my soul overwhelm
Ere I reach the pure shore of the heavenly realm.

But what is this music that fills my ear,
Enchanting my senses dispelling my fear?
Oh, the angels are with me I cannot alone,
They're bearing me safe to my dear Father's home.

The playmates I loved who have gone on before,
Are waiting for me on yon beautiful shore.
Jesus beckons me to him I hear his call,
It is only a little Brook after all.

The dark River of death turned into a beautiful brook with bright flowers all along the banks and on the other side in the celestial land are ~~many~~ the loved I lay in dust that went on before and myriads of white angels waiting to welcome the dear little one about to pass over.

For wherever a pious
christian prayes, "Beloved
Father let thy will be done!"
immediately from on high
God responds: "Yes beloved
child it shall be even so
and come to pass in
defiance of the devel and
all the world."

Book of Concord page 421

O Most glorious and ever blessed Lord God who dwellest in the higest Heavens, yet vouchsafe to regard the lowest creature here on earth, we thy unworthy Servants now bow before thee humbly beseeching thee to pardon and forgive us our sins for we acknowledge O Lord, that we have many many times acted foolishly: that we have done those things which thou hast forbidden, and have neglected to do those things which thou hast commanded. O let that merciful time which hast spared us thus long, lead us to repentance; that we may henceforth forsake our evil ways, and turn unto thee our God. Give us grace O Lord seriously to consider the great work we have to do and the shortness and uncertainty of time we have to do it in that we may not consume

Our steps in our eternity
but surely we can see
it be eternally the lot that
we our mortal [illegible]
travelled [illegible] to meet our
that [illegible] ere [illegible] we
all must appear before the
Judgment Seat to give
an account of the deeds done in
the body.

For wherever a pious Christian prays.
"Beloved Father, let thy will be done!"
immediately from on high God
Responds: "Yes, beloved child, it shall
be even so. and come to pass.
in defiance of the devil and
all the world."

Book of Concord page 1121

Evening Prayer Forcebandon

O most glorious and ever-blessed Lord God who dwellest in the highest Heavens yet vouchsafe to regard the lowest creatures here on earth we thy unworthy servants now com before thee humbly beseeching the to hardon and forgive us our sins for we acknowledge O Lord that we have many times acted foolishly that we have done those things whitch thou hast forbidden and have neglected to do those things which thou hast commanded O let that mercy thine which hast spared us thus long lead us to repentance; that we may hence forth forsake our evil ways and turn unto the Lord our God. give us grace O Lord seriously to consider the great work we have to do and the shortness of the time we have to do it in that we may not consum

our days in sin and vanity
nor set our hearts so much upon
the things of this world as to
neglect the great concerns of our
souls but let us make it our chief
care to serve and please thee and
to provide for our eternal state But
O Lord we pray not for our selves
alone but for all christians;
especialy for this church and
and nation. Bless our civil
Government Bless the minister
whom thou hast set over us and
prosper his labours to the salvation
of our never dying souls. Bless
all our friends; and forgive all
our enemies, convert the sinner
comfort the sick and afflicted
and be pleased to provide for
the fatherless and the widow and
O merciful father accept we
beseech thee of our most humble
and hearty thanks for all thy
mercies from time to time
vouchsafe to us; for the fountain of
them all the holy Jesus and for all
the benefits of our Redemption for
the light of the gospel for the comforts
of thy blessed Spirit and the hope
of eternal glory we praise thee also
for the use of our reason for our food
and Raiment for our health and
strength and particularly for
thy watchful care and good
providence over us this day and we
humbly beseech thee to continue thy
guardian care over us and to take us
this night into thy care and protection
defend the habitation this night from
fire storm and tempest and every
other sad accident Deliver us
from the power and malice
of wicked Spirits and keep us out
of the hands of wicked men; and let

us Gow to our rest in safety
and peace with one another
lastly Sink us O Lord we beseech
thee an holy and religious house hold
fearing thee and loving one another
and grant that we may live together
such a peaceable and godly family all
our days that when death shall seperat
us from each other here on earth we
meet again in heavin; and there
dwell together in Joy and happiness
for ever more O Lord have us and
accept of these our prayers and
praises for the sake of our blessed
Saviour and Redeemer Jesus Christ
who hath taught us when we pray
to say; Our Father who art in heavin
hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come Thy will be
done on earth as it is in heaven Give us this day our
daily bread. and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us. and
lead us not into temptations but deliver
us from evil for thine is the kingdom and
the power and the glory forever. Amen 8/65

Written by J. C. Collins on the last day of December

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